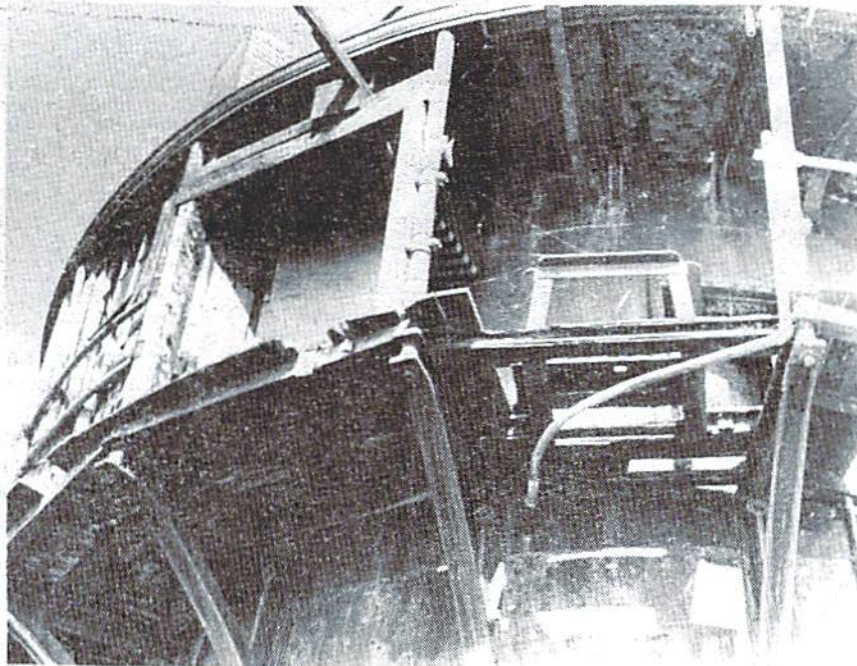


Duxbury Clipper, Thursday, June 23, 1983

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Years of neglect and constant exposure to the elements have taken their toll on Duxbury Pier Light.

Bug Light Work Postponed

Around Town

Work to replace the deteriorating Duxbury Pier Light has been postponed until Sept. 15. This decision was made June 15 by Rear Admiral Clyde Robbins, commander of the Coast Guard in New England.

Robbins' decision was based on comments received from Plymouth town officials in a recent meeting, (a large group from Duxbury attended including Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Heap), citizens' letters, and an offer from State Senator Edward Kirby to initiate efforts to develop a plan for some group to repair the light and provide regular maintenance. This option is viable. The Coast Guard could license a group or organization to renovate and maintain the existing structure according to Coast Guard standards.

Unless a suitable alternative is proposed and accepted by the Coast Guard, plans are to replace the old structure with a low-maintenance fiberglass structure. Work would begin in mid-September.

The estimated cost of the replacement structure is \$63,000. This is compared to estimates in excess of \$250,000 to make complete structural repairs to the old light. The final cost would depend upon concealed defects which would be uncovered during construction. The new fiberglass structure would be cheaper to maintain over the next 25 years.

Harbormaster Don Beers took Ed Heap and Earl McMahon out to inspect Bug Light last week. McMahon is a retired civil engineer who has many ideas as to the possible repair of the present struc-

Dr. C. David Benson of Pine Hill has been awarded a fellowship to work and study at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. Dr. Benson, an associate professor of English at UConn, has been named a fellow and associate of the center which is an institute for advanced study in history, philosophy, literature and other fields of the humanities. An authority on Middle English literature, Benson received his bachelor's degree from Harvard and his master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California/Berkeley. His is the author of numerous articles for literary journals and has written the book, "The History of Troy in Middle English Literature."



Coast Guard personnel and a representative from Congressman Gerry Studds' office inspect the upper part of deteriorating Duxbury Pier Light.